

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: W. Lincoln Bouve et al.
Application No. 08/920,044
Filed August 28, 1997
Title SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR REMOTELY ACCESSING A
SELECTED GROUP OF ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM A
DATABASE
Group./A.U. 2172
Examiner Hosain T. Alam
Docket No. 387795

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE and PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of August 21, 2001, Applicants provide the following amendments and remarks. For the Examiner's convenience, each of the pending claims is provided herewith.

Amendments to the Claims

38. A method for locating items of interest relative to a first location, comprising the steps of:

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selecting the first location at a port situated at a second location; selecting, at the port, a category associated with the items of interest; communicating the first location and the category to a database that is connected to the port and that is not located at the second location; and receiving, at the port, information defining geographic locations of the items of interest, the information deriving from spatial detail within the database.